

### Goal Ia3 – Air Quality

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**NPS Mission Goal.** By September 30, 2005, natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored, and managed within their broad ecosystem and cultural context. 70% of reporting park areas have remained stable or improved.

**Park Long-term Goal.** By September 30, 2005, air quality has remained stable or improved.

**Park Annual Goal.** By September 30, 2003, air quality has remained stable or improved.

**Miscellaneous Notes.** Air pollution is one of the major threats to the resources of these parks. This goal tracks visibility, ozone, particulates, wet and dry deposition, and UV. This goal will ensure that information from the air-quality monitoring program is relayed to the air-pollution regulatory agencies. This goal includes the facilitation of research to better understand the biological and chemical effects of air pollution on park resources. Information from these studies will be relayed to the air-pollution regulatory agencies, cooperative scientists, and interested groups.

**Tracker.** This goal will be tracked by the air quality specialist.

**Goal Verification/Validation.** includes monitoring air pollution levels and impacts, working with regulatory agencies to mitigate impacts to the parks' resources, and providing an educational outreach program to park visitors and the interested public on air quality.

### Goal Ia4 – Water Quality

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**NPS Mission Goal.** Natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored, and maintained in good condition and managed within the broader ecosystem and cultural context; 85% (244) of 288 units have unimpaired water quality.

**Park Long-term Goal.** By September 30, 2005, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks have unimpaired water quality.

**Park Annual Goal.** By September 30, 2003, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks have unimpaired water quality.

**Miscellaneous Notes.** Water quality is an issue of major concern in these parks. Clean water is critical for maintaining flora and fauna in a healthy state. This can be seen clearly by reviewing studies conducted in such places as Everglades National Park where water quality has been severely degraded due to an influx of nutrients, chemicals and waste products from surrounding lands. At issue, here, is also the fact that the mountains protected by these parks form an enormous watershed that furnishes numerous constituents downstream with drinking water as well as water for agricultural purposes. Hence, clean water is not an isolated park issue but one of more regional concern.

**Tracker.** This goal will be tracked by the wildlife ecologist.

**Goal Verification/Validation.** includes monitoring water pollution levels and impacts and working with regulatory agencies to mitigate impacts to the parks' resources and those downstream.